

be considered as a separate violation of the order.

**(f) Failure to pay a penalty**

**(1) In general**

If a person fails to pay a civil penalty assessed under subsection (c) or (e) of this section after the penalty has become final and unappealable, or after the appropriate United States district court has entered final judgment in favor of the Secretary, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Attorney General for recovery of the amount assessed in any United States district court in which the person resides or conducts business.

**(2) Scope of review**

In an action by the Attorney General under paragraph (1), the validity and appropriateness of a civil penalty shall not be subject to review.

**(g) Additional remedies**

The remedies provided in this chapter shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, other remedies that may be available.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1208], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-93.)

**§ 7808. Investigations and power to subpoena**

**(a) Investigations**

The Secretary may conduct such investigations as the Secretary considers necessary for the effective administration of this chapter, or to determine whether any person has engaged or is engaging in any act that constitutes a violation of this chapter or any order or regulation issued under this chapter.

**(b) Subpoenas, oaths, and affirmations**

**(1) Investigations**

For the purpose of conducting an investigation under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel the attendance of witnesses, take evidence, and require the production of any records that are relevant to the inquiry. The production of the records may be required from any place in the United States.

**(2) Administrative hearings**

For the purpose of an administrative hearing held under section 7806(a)(2) or 7807(c)(3) of this title, the presiding officer may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel the attendance of witnesses, take evidence, and require the production of any records that are relevant to the inquiry. The attendance of witnesses and the production of the records may be required from any place in the United States.

**(c) Aid of courts**

**(1) In general**

In the case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued under subsection (b) of this section to, any person, the Secretary may invoke the aid of any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which the investigation or proceeding is conducted, or

where the person resides or conducts business, in order to enforce a subpoena issued under subsection (b) of this section.

**(2) Order**

The court may issue an order requiring the person referred to in paragraph (1) to comply with a subpoena referred to in paragraph (1).

**(3) Failure to obey**

Any failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt of court.

**(4) Process**

Process in any proceeding under this subsection may be served in the United States judicial district in which the person being proceeded against resides or conducts business, or wherever the person may be found.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1209], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-95.)

**§ 7809. Confidentiality**

**(a) Prohibition**

No information regarding names of voters or how a person voted in a referendum conducted under this chapter shall be made public.

**(b) Penalty**

Any person who knowingly violates subsection (a) of this section or the confidentiality terms of an order, as described in section 7804(m)(2) of this title, shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000 or to imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. If the person is an officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture or the Board, the person shall be removed from office.

**(c) Additional prohibition**

No information obtained under this chapter may be made available to any agency or officer of the Federal Government for any purpose other than the implementation of this chapter or an investigatory or enforcement action necessary for the implementation of this chapter.

**(d) Withholding information from Congress prohibited**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the withholding of information from Congress.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1210], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-96.)

**§ 7810. Authority for Secretary to suspend or terminate order**

**(a) Grounds for suspension or termination**

If the Secretary finds that an order, or any provision of the order, obstructs or does not tend to effectuate the policy of this chapter specified in section 7801(b) of this title, the Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operation of the order or provision under such terms as the Secretary determines are appropriate.

**(b) Effect of lack of approval of order**

If, as a result of a referendum, the Secretary determines that the order is not approved, the Secretary shall, within 180 days after making

the determination, suspend, or terminate, as appropriate, collection of assessments under the order, and suspend or terminate, as appropriate, activities under the order in an orderly manner as soon as possible.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1211], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-96.)

### § 7811. Rules of construction

#### (a) Termination or suspension not an order

The termination or suspension of an order, or a provision of an order, shall not be considered an order under the meaning of this chapter.

#### (b) Rights

This chapter—

(1) may not be construed to provide for control of production or otherwise limit the right of individual Hass avocado growers, handlers and importers to produce, handle, or import Hass avocados; and

(2) shall be construed to treat all persons producing, handling, and importing Hass avocados fairly and to implement any order in an equitable manner.

#### (c) Other programs

Nothing in this chapter may be construed to preempt or supersede any other program relating to Hass avocado promotion, research, industry information, and consumer information organized and operated under the laws of the United States or of a State.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1212], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-96.)

### § 7812. Regulations

The Secretary may issue such regulations as are necessary to carry out this chapter and the powers vested in the Secretary by this chapter, including regulations relating to the assessment of late payment charges and interest.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1213], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-97.)

### § 7813. Authorization of appropriations

#### (a) In general

There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year such sums as are necessary to carry out this chapter.

#### (b) Administrative expenses

Funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section may not be used for the payment of the expenses or expenditures of the Board in administering a provision of an order.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1214], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-97.)

## CHAPTER 106—COMMODITY PROGRAMS

Sec.

7901. Definitions.

### SUBCHAPTER I—DIRECT PAYMENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS

7911. Establishment of base acres and payment acres for a farm.

(a) Election by owner of base acres calculation method.

Sec.

- (b) Single election; time for election.
- (c) Effect of failure to make election.
- (d) Application of election to all covered commodities.
- (e) Treatment of conservation reserve contract acreage.
- (f) Payment acres.
- (g) Prevention of excess base acres.
- (h) Permanent reduction in base acres.

7912.

Establishment of payment yield.

- (a) Establishment and purpose.
- (b) Use of farm program payment yield.
- (c) Farms without farm program payment yield.
- (d) Payment yields for oilseeds.
- (e) Opportunity to partially update yields used to determine counter-cyclical payments.

7913.

Availability of direct payments.

- (a) Payment required.
- (b) Payment rate.
- (c) Payment amount.
- (d) Time for payment.

7914.

Availability of counter-cyclical payments.

- (a) Payment required.
- (b) Effective price.
- (c) Target price.
- (d) Payment rate.
- (e) Payment amount.
- (f) Time for payments.

7915.

Producer agreement required as condition of provision of direct payments and counter-cyclical payments.

- (a) Compliance with certain requirements.
- (b) Transfer or change of interest in farm.
- (c) Acreage reports.
- (d) Tenants and sharecroppers.
- (e) Sharing of payments.

7916.

Planting flexibility.

- (a) Permitted crops.
- (b) Limitations regarding certain commodities.
- (c) Exceptions.
- (d) Special rule for 2002 crop year.

7917.

Relation to remaining payment authority under production flexibility contracts.

- (a) Termination of superseded payment authority.
- (b) Contract payments made before enactment.

7918.

Period of effectiveness.

### SUBCHAPTER II—MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS

7931.

Availability of nonrecourse marketing assistance loans for loan commodities.

- (a) Nonrecourse loans available.
- (b) Eligible production.
- (c) Treatment of certain commingled commodities.
- (d) Compliance with conservation and wetlands requirements.
- (e) Termination of superseded loan authority.

7932.

Loan rates for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans.

- (a) 2002 and 2003 crop years.
- (b) 2004 through 2007 crop years.
- (c) Single county loan rate for other oilseeds.
- (d) Quality grades for dry peas, lentils, and small chickpeas.

7933.

Term of loans.

- (a) Term of loan.
- (b) Extensions prohibited.

7934.

Repayment of loans.

- (a) General rule.